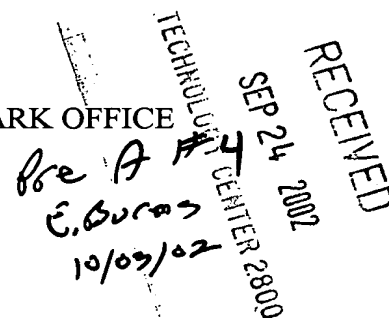




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Application of: Mohammed N. Islam, et al.

Serial No.: 10/028,576

Filing Date: December 20, 2001

Title: OPTICAL AMPLIFICATION USING LAUNCHED SIGNAL  
POWERS SELECTED AS A FUNCTION OF A NOISE FIGURE

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*Willie Jiles*  
Willie Jiles

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to the initial review of this non-provisional utility patent application entitled  
"*Optical Amplification Using Launched Signal Powers Selected As A function Of A Noise  
Figure*" by Mohammed N. Islam, et al., please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims are set forth below, whether or not an  
amendment has been made and whether or not newly added.

09/23/2002 NMOHAMM1 00000025 10028576

01 FC:203 99.00 OP  
02 FC:202 210.00 OP